**SEAC Meeting**

**Date: 7 October, 2019  Location: Board Room, 5050 Yonge St.**

**Time: 7:04**

**Committee Chair:   Richard Carter**

**Committee Vice-Chair:  Steven Lynette**

**Approved Minutes**:

A meeting of the Special Education Advisory Committee convened on October 7, 2019 from 7:04 pm to 9:00 pm in the TDSB Board Room (5050 Yonge Street, Toronto, ON).

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**Attendance:**

Association for Bright Children (ABC) Melissa Rosen

Autism Society of Ontario – Toronto Lisa Kness

Community Living Toronto Tracey O’Regan (Phone)

Down Syndrome Association of Toronto Richard Carter

Easter Seals Ontario Vacancy

Epilepsy Toronto Steven Lynette

Integrated Action for Inclusion (IAI) Tania Principe

Learning Disabilities Association Toronto Patrick Smith (Phone)

VIEWS for the Visually Impaired David Lepofsky

VOICE for Hearing Impaired Children Paul Cross

LC1 Nora Green Aline Chan

LC2 Jean-Paul Ngana Jordan Glass

LC3 Olga Ingrahm Kirsten Doyle (phone)

LC4 Diane Montgomery

TDSB Trustees Trustee Michelle Aarts (Phone), Trustee Alexander Brown

**Also present were:**

Kathy Witherow, Associate Director, Leadership, Learning and School Improvement

Angela Nardi-Addesa, System Superintendent, Special Education and Inclusion

Lucy Gianotta , Centrally Assigned Principal, Special Education (Acting)

Janine Small, Centrally Assigned Principal, Special Education

Lianne Dixon, TDSB SEAC Liaison

Regrets: Trustee Alexandra Lulka,

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|  | Item | Comments | Recommendations |
| 1. | Call to Order (quorum) - Acknowledgement and Welcome and Introductions, TDSB Staff, Guests and Observers; announce call-in attendees and audio recording of meeting. |  |  |
| 2. | Approval of Agenda (including time allocation) | Approved |  |
| 3. | Declarations of Possible Conflict of Interests | None |  |
| 4. | Approval of SEAC Meeting Minutes for September 9, 2019 | Approved |  |
| 5. | Presentation: Accessibility of the Built Environment | Thea Kurdi, VP, DesignABLE Environments  Presented a power point and led a discussion around accessibility in TDSB.  Power point presentation link attached and shared with SEAC members. | Request that Staff responsible for Accessibility present an update to SEAC at a future meeting. |
| 6. | Transportation Update | Transportation presentation outlined:   * Transportation services shared with TCDSB * Over 47 000 students total transported in the TDSB and TCDSB * 17,123 TDSB students are transported; 6850 are in Special Education * Transportation E-application is being developed following loss of a number of paper forms during the York Memorial Fire * Parents can access the [Transportation portal](https://busplannerweb.torontoschoolbus.org/Subscriptions/Login.aspx) <https://busplannerweb.torontoschoolbus.org/Subscriptions/Login.aspx> mid August to confirm their transportation details prior to school staff returning. Parents can track their child’s bus (Where’s My Bus?) * Over 60% of new and changed applications come in during late August and early September. Changes to those requirements in September result in delays to start service. Those additions and changes also result in changes to the school bus routes. * Power point attached | Request for driver training information to be shared with SEAC at a future meeting |
| 7. | Leadership and Learning Department Staff updates, motion status at PSSC/Board and requests for SEAC input | Independence Rubric was introduced  Purpose:   * Determining a student’s level of independence (how much adult support is required?) * Interrupt the norm (change the conversation away from “more support equals better outcomes” to “developing a student’s independence is our long term goal”) * Rubric allows collaboration to see how far students have come with regards to independence * Currently in draft form   Kindergarten Intervention Program (KIP)   * The 8 KIP programs across TDSB will be closing in June 2020   Conscious Classrooms   * An approach that supports the idea of good for some beneficial to all as it relates to learning conditions and the learning environment * We are exploring a what training would entail; supported by OSBIE, our union partners and the Board conglomerate   Extend-a-Family & Families for a Secure Future   * Partnership of both organizations to host a free screening of the documentary “Intelligent Lives” by award-winning filmmaker Dan Habib * Free screening on November 3, 2019 from 3:00 pm to 6:00 pm   Staff Report Attached to minutes | Request for follow up with Caring and Safe Policy (update) to be shared with SEAC at a future meeting.  Request for follow up with how EA’s and SNA’s are allocated to be shared with SEAC at a future meeting.  Request for a presentation to SEAC on Conscious Classrooms at a future meeting.  Request for information around the allocation of EA/SNA’s and how it is related to the Independence Rubric.  Clarified that motions from SEAC are to be presented to PSSC first – before going to the board. Trustees sitting on SEAC to raise awareness with the board.  Request for break down of EQAO results for Special Education Students to be shared with SEAC at a future meeting. |
| 8. | Special Education Plan 2019 - Review: Accessibility, p.16-18; Professional Learning p.116-117; Staff Allocation, p.145-184; Transportation, p.185-190. | Cover sections throughout the year – plan ahead so that different sections can be previewed for discussion at the meeting |  |
| 9. | Trustees’ Report(s)   * PSCC, October 3, 2019 - SEAC Motion status/outcome | Trustee Alexander Brown   * Brought forward a motion around developing a communication policy |  |
| 10. | Working Group Updates   * Action Plan (inactive; no members) * Budget (Questions for Craig Snyder) * Communications * Special Education Plan (Items 6 & 8) | * Action Plan: Nothing to report * Budget:   - Send Budget questions for Craig Snider to SEAC Liaison prior to the meeting.   * Communications: Nothing to report * Special Education Plan: See Items 6. and 8. Above for updates. |  |
| 11. | SEAC Member Reports   * Announcements/Upcoming Events | No reports | 8:45 |
| 12. | Other business   * CAC/Parents as Partners Conference * SEAC Binder Updates * Correspondence Binder Updates * New Association Membership discussion * Feedback - Transforming Student Learning in Literacy and Mathematics Policy (P038) - DRAFT | 1. Call for SEAC members to participate in planning process/meetings.  2. No updates.  3. Correspondence from TFN about SEAC Annual Report. The 2018/19 SEAC Annual Report is complete and will be posted once approved by the board.  4. CADDAC – put forward to next month – clarify is there a local chapter?  5. Feedback to be submitted per e-mail | 8:50 |
| 13. | Adjournment  Next Meeting: November 4, 2019 @ 7 pm | Chair adjourned 9:15 | 9:00 |

Attachments:

**SEAC Meeting of October 7, 2019**

**Leadership, Learning, and School Improvement**

Dr. Kathy Witherow, Associate Director

Angela Nardi-Addesa, System Superintendent of Special Education & Inclusion

Lucy Giannotta, Acting Centrally Assigned Principal

**Welcome**

* We are excited to welcome Lucy Giannotta- Acting Centrally Assigned Principal
* Congratulations to Helen Fisher, Acting Superintendent of Learning Network 7,

Learning Centre 2

**Staff and Student Awards and Recognition**

CEC Chapter 391 celebrates the success and accomplishments of students with special needs, and honours the exemplary contributions of adults who support these students.

We are proud of our TDSB staff and students who are recognized for their great work and accomplishments in Special Education.

We are proud to acknowledge:

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| --- | --- | --- | --- | --- |
| **Board/School** | **Nominator** | **Recipient** | **Award** | **Award Description** |
| TDSB  Lucy McCormick Sr. School | Claire Bernard - teacher  [Claire.bernard@tdsb.on.ca](mailto:Claire.bernard@tdsb.on.ca) | Winston Albanum | Yes I Can – Arts  Region 3 | **ARTS-**achievement in a particular area such as music, art, drama, dance or written expression. |
| TDSB  Victoria Park E.S. | Laurie Sleeth  Teacher Jr. ISP  [Laurie.sleeth@tdsb.on.ca](mailto:Laurie.sleeth@tdsb.on.ca) | Gillian Lazaridis | YIC – Academics  Ontario Division on Autism and Developmental Disabilities | **ACADEMICS-** achievement in a particular subject area such as math, science, reading, social studies, language arts, foreign languages, etc. ***or*** a high level of achievement on standardized tests, etc. |
| TDSB  George Webster P.S. | Charles Gardner Teacher  [Charles.Gardner@tdsb.on.ca](mailto:Charles.Gardner@tdsb.on.ca) | Olin Sheikh | YIC - Transition  (Vocational Training)  Ontario Division on Autism and Developmental Disabilities | **TRANSITION** - achievement in mastering activities that lead to successful experiences in the areas of a) work, b) vocational training, or c) independent living |
| TDSB  Central Etobicoke High School | Nasma Mohsini Teacher  [Nasma.mohsini@tdsb.on.ca](mailto:Nasma.mohsini@tdsb.on.ca) | Matthew Prizzon | YIC - Transition (Independent Living)  Ontario Division on Autism and Developmental Disabilities | **TRANSITION** - achievement in mastering activities that lead to successful experiences in the areas of a) work, b) vocational training, or c) independent living |
| TDSB  Charles E. Webster | Charlene Carruthers VP  [charlene.carruthers@tdsb.on.ca](mailto:charlene.carruthers@tdsb.on.ca) | Antonio (Tony) Tamburro | Teacher of the Year - Region 3 | A teacher, who is ***not*** in a consultative or supervisory capacity and who, in the opinion of the Chapter, has made a significant contribution to exceptional children and youth.  Individuals should have contributed to the welfare of exceptional children and youth in any of the following ways:  -Contributed to the educational growth of exceptional students  Affected the attitude of parents, teachers, administrators, etc.  -Contributed to the general life of the school  -Submitted an article or paper for publication at the local, provincial, national or international level. |
| TDSB  Beverly Street School | Charlene Carruthers  [charlene.carruthers@tdsb.on.ca](mailto:charlene.carruthers@tdsb.on.ca) | Hayden Desser and Christie Greyerbiehl (parents of Grey Desser) | Yes I Can  Parent Award  Region 3 | The individuals nominated must be a parent/guardian of a child/youth with special needs.  The individual nominated will have contributed to the welfare of exceptional children in many of the following ways:  -encouraging awareness of exceptional children and youth  -influencing the attitudes of parents, teachers, administrators, etc. regarding the needs of exceptional children and youth  -advocating for special education in the community  -involvement in the development of programming and/or services for exceptional children and youth |

**Independence Rubric**

Purpose:

* Determining a student’s level of independence *(how much adult support is required?)*
* Interrupt the norm *(change the conversation away from “more support equals better outcomes” to “developing a student’s independence is our long term goal”)*
* Clarity, Consistency, and Transparency *(in the process of evaluation and deployment)*

**Kindergarten Intervention Program (KIP)**

* KIP is a special education program serving age-appropriate students enrolled in a Junior Kindergarten or Senior Kindergarten program. These students are able to learn the Kindergarten curriculum, but their consistent success is impacted by ongoing interpersonal/intrapersonal and/or self/regulation behavioural challenges
* The 8 KIP programs across TDSB will be closing in June 2020
* The Inclusion model will allow our Early Years students to learn with their peers and thrive in a learning environment where transformational changes in the pedagogical approaches used in Kindergarten (The four frames: Self-Regulation and Well-Being; Belonging and Contributing; Problem Solving and Innovating; Demonstrating Literacy and Mathematics Behaviours) will allow every student to be given the opportunity to learn in the way that is best suited to the child’s individual strengths and needs.

**Conscious Classrooms**

* An approach that supports the idea of good for some beneficial to all as it relates to learning conditions and the learning environment
* Data indicates there was a reduction in violent incidents
* We are exploring a what training would entail; supported by OSBIE, our union partners and the Board conglomerate

**Extend-a-Family & Families for a Secure Future**

* Partnership of both organizations to host a free screening of the documentary “Intelligent Lives” by award-winning filmmaker Dan Habib
* Free screening on November 3, 2019 from 3:00 pm to 6:00 pm
* To reserve free tickets follow link on email attachment below

**PPM 163**

As we prepare to develop and implement a policy on the use of service animals in schools, we will be using [PPM163](https://docs.google.com/document/d/1Ju1aZlKgnHq7NcMSYO5ictXdPLjcPh4IKq-KKF11Aas/edit) to provide direction. The memorandum outlines expectations to be followed and frames which components are to be included in the policy.

We are interested in working with SEAC to garner feedback.

**Labour Relations**

CUPE labour negotiations have concluded and a tentavie agreement has been reached. We are pleased to inform you that all TDSB schools remained open to students and staff on Monday, October 7, 2019.

School buses were operating with some delays. Parents/guardians are encouraged to check the [delay portal](https://busplannerweb.torontoschoolbus.org/Cancellations) for the latest information.

All child care, both TDSB-operated extended day programs and third-party licensed child care operators, are open.

Permits and continuing education classes ([Adult ESL](http://www.esltoronto.ca/), [Adult High Schools](https://www.tdsb.on.ca/Adult-Learners/Adult-Credit-Programs/Adult-High-Schools), [Credit Programs](https://www.tdsb.on.ca/High-School/Going-to-High-School/Night-School-and-Summer-School), [Community Programs/Learn4Life](http://www.learn4life.ca/), and [International Languages Elementary/African Heritage](http://www.ileprograms.ca/)) will continue as normal.

